Washington City
14th Nov. 1849

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My dear Sir.

The time for the meeting of Congress is rapidly approaching as you are aware & how rapidly it flies. It would afford me great pleasure to be able to report to the Committee that the Botanical Dept. was provided for and that you had consented to take charge of it. This however is only to remind you that you were to give me some answer before this time what your decision was for I wished to be prepared to recommend some action on the part of the Committee as soon as they meet provided you have made up your mind not to undertake it. & therefore should be much obliged to you to let me have your final decision upon the subject.

I have intended writing a few lines to Profr. Agassiz to inform him that I have a letter written to him inviting him to give a course of lectures in this city in the latter part of Feby & March which is signed by

all the distinguished persons in the Metropolis
except the President. I shall wait for a few
more who are now absent and for our friend
Henry to return before I forward it to him.
I should like to know when you will be ready for
the artist to figure your Botanical plates & if
you can make yet any estimate of the number
you will have to figure.

Very truly Yours
Yr obt servt.
Charles Wilkes.

TORREY C... HERB... CE
COLUMBIA U... ITY.

Dr.
John Torrey
Prof. Col. of Physicians
Crosby Street
N. York

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Books - Say $300 -

Pay me $7.50 (1/2 ~~3d~~ of Oreg. & Califa plants) on 1st ~~Feby~~ Jany.

Take pay of other natl. from that time & do my best -

Have a draughtsman at not more than $700 salary

Till he is engaged, allow me to contract for my drawings at not more than $8 each -

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My dear Sir,

Your small bill has been lying on my table since the day after you left here. It is very easy for you to authorize some one to collect it for you. Mr. Drayton will do it — therefore if you will endorse it pay

over

to him and send it to him

at Phil[illegible]. care of [illegible] & Bla[illegible]

– [illegible] he will get it –

very truly yours

Chauncey Wilson

2nd Aug 1849

Prof. Torrey

Princeton.

N. J.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Washington City
9th Dec. 1847.

My dear Sir,

I ought to have acknowledged the receipt of your letters of the 24 & 27th but as you well know the tumult & turmoil of the meeting of Congress, has put every thing out of Joint for a few days & this must be my excuse.

I have attentively read your letter & can see no objections to the arrangement you speak of being made except as to the item of time. I am fully aware of the difficulty of assigning any limits to the doing up of such a work as our Botanical collection nor can I consent to be umpire for the Committee, if the thing should go before them, but for your information I would say it would be desirable to state some time when you think the Botanical Dept could be finished and in asking you to make this calculation or rather guess I am aware of the difficulty of your doing it, yet ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~, this course would be more satisfactory

and more consistent with the action of the committee to have some knowledge of the length of time it will take to finish the whole.
This my dear sir I am aware will make you feel that you are in a dilemma, but I trust not and that you can ~~state~~ determine in yr own mind what you would be willing to do the work for & then divide it by the pay designated by your former term.

There are various reasons why it becomes necessary for the Chairman of the Committee to ~~know~~ this information ~~these~~ I would tell you if you were here, but they are of too little consequence to write along.

As regards the Books there is no difficulty they can always be procured in one way or another.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Your desire to change your present agreement for the one ~~ad~~ I propose seems to me to be injus-tice to yourself and considering it so I do not think it ought to be made, but I see no reason why the one should interfere with the other. Your Oregon plants are to be finished by April and then you could fall into what we proposed, this would give you time & if you had not by that time completed all that you are to do under yr agreement why you should

be willing I think to trust your conscience to make a suitable allowance if you thought it right to do so.

In respect to any money you might want I can see no difficulty in the Committee ~~[illegible]~~ making you a payment on account of the present labours you are upon if you desire it: they have done it in other cases and I think would do it again altho' most of them will be new members yet they are generally disposed to act from precedent.

Pray let me hear from you in a few days and believe me with

Sincere esteem & respect

Your good friend

Charles Wilkes.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Dr. John Torrey

New York

[1847?]

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Philadelphia
Friday 13th

My dear Sir,

I was in hopes of being able to stop and see you at Princeton but I find it impossible to do so.

If you could spare the time or were about to visit New York I have business of some moment to see you about relative to the Botanical Dept. — in which I am well persuaded you take a great interest in. I shall be at No. 32. [illegible] Street for a few days — and if you find it impossible to come on I shall be obliged to see you at Princeton although it may be of great inconvenience to me.

Pray let me hear from you & whether you can come to N. York or not & believe me very truly

Yours &c
Charles Wilkes

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Dr. John Torrey
Princeton. N.J.

Direct to me N. York

Washington City
22nd Jany 1848.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My dear Sir,

I enclosed your letter to Mr. Pearce instead of delivering it to him as if it had come from you direct - today I met him and he desired me to say to you that himself and the Committee felt every disposition to accede to your wishes, but in consideration of the low state of the appropriation he was afraid they would not be able to let you have all the amount you desired and that he hoped you would be able to do with the half of it, as he did not wish you should be refused now, to render the advance to you doubtful when it came before the Committee for action, as they might deem it prudent to first pay for work that was actually done and before them.

If you can make up your mind to do with $350. there will be no doubt of your receiving it; but if determined for the whole you wish for you must take the chance of a refusal now it may not be worth while for me

to say anything to you, but I think you expect it and therefore I will tell you frankly it would be better for you to make out a bill for $350 against the Liby Com.ee and enclose it to me with a report of how much of your work is finished & if I can I will get more added to it, this last however you must not reckon upon although they have made advances yet they do not like to do it, not as regards your case but it with others forms a precedent which compels them to be very decided often upon their applications.

You know the form of the bill and therefore I need not say anything further upon the subject only to urge you to send it on forthwith. for I wish to include it in the monthly accounts we have to lay before the Com.ee by the 1st instant.

I have to thank you for the Natural History I wish I could get the Reports of the last six lectures on embryology. perhaps you might [illegible] & for the former.

I have not yet heard from Prof. Agassiz & we are yet in doubt if he is to come among us.

Believe me Very truly yours &c

Charles Wilkes.

Prof. John Torrey
N. York.

Torrey Correspondence, Herbarium, Columbia University

Washington City
18th Feby 1848

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My dear Sir

I have this moment received the Bill from the Chairman of the Joint Liby Com'ee and enclose you. Your Voucher requires your order for the Register of the Treasury to pay it to some one who can draw the money & remit it to you. I would suggest that you make it payable to Mr Drayton who will do the needful. All that is necessary as to form is to write at the end

"Pay to the Order of Mr Joseph Drayton the above amount of three hundred and fifty dollars — Signed J. Torrey —

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Return it by mail to Mr Drayton & he

will send you a draft, if [illegible]

Yours truly

J. Emery Wilkes

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Dr. John Torrey

N York

Washington City
24th April 1849.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Sir:

The Public Gardener is to be removed and we want to secure the place for Breckenridge who is as you well know the most competent person for the situation and will be enabled to give the whole public grounds as well as the cultivation of both exotics and indigenous plants a chance they have never yet had either too under the Patronage of the Public purse.

Pray do all you can in the way of letters of recommendation to Mr. Ewing the Secretary of the Interior to promote his appointment, a strong letter from you will do a great deal of good lose no time in writing it and get all the other force you can to bear.

In haste yours truly
Charles Wilkes.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Dr. Torrey
Princeton N. Jersey

Washington City
3rd Nov. 1858.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Dr Sir:

You will oblige me by forward-
-ing your M.S.S. of the Department of
Botany you have had in charge of
the Exploring Expedition - at the same
time inform me when you desire the
Proof sheets to be sent for correction -
Mr Stuart has I believe furnished
you a full set of proofs of the Plates
which will be printed from for the Atlas
to the vol:

Very respectfully
Yours &c
Charles Wilkes.

Dr John Torrey
Present. New York

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.